

The BROADAX

HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

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No. 15

Two Fly Cops from the Headquarters of Charles C. Healey, Chief of Police in the City Hall, Invaded the Parlors of the Appomattox Club, Last Thursday Evening, and Arrested Eight or Ten of Its Members for Playing Cards for Money Open and Above Board

THE OFFICERS OF THE LAW CARRIED AWAY SOME OF THE POKER CHIPS AND SOME OF THE MONEY TO USE AS EVIDENCE AGAINST THE PLAYERS WHEN THEIR CASES COME UP IN THE CLARK STREET POLICE COURT FOR TRIAL EITHER THE 11TH OR 12TH OF JANUARY.

COL. WILLIAM RANDOLPH COWAN ACCOMPANIED THOSE CAUGHT IN THE RAID TO THE STANTON AVENUE STATION AND WAS THE HEAD BONDSMAN FOR THEM.

OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR THE WIVES AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILIES OF THE GENTLEMEN WHO WERE CAUGHT IN THE POLICE NET RED HANDED AND WITH THE GOODS ON THEM THEIR NAMES WILL BE WITHHELD FROM PUBLICATION IN THESE COLUMNS.

IT MAY NOT BE TRUE BUT IT IS SAID THAT "CHIEF HEALEY HAS STRONGLY INTIMATED THAT THE FLY COPS HAD MADE A MISTAKE IN RUSHING INTO THE CLUB AND THAT IT WOULD NOT OCCUR AGAIN AND ON FRIDAY EVENING IT IS CONTENTED THAT CARD PLAYING WAS RUNNING AT FULL BLAST AGAIN.

OUT OF THE TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY THREE MEMBERS OF THE APPOMATTOX CLUB NOT OVER TWENTY-FIVE OR THIRTY OF THAT NUMBER FEEL THAT THEY MUST AT ALL TIMES SHUFFLE THE CARDS FOR MONEY AND IT IS GREATLY TO BE DEPLORED THAT THEY WILL PERSIST IN BRINGING EVERLASTING DISGRACE AND SHAME UPON THEMSELVES AND THE CLUB WHICH SHOULD STAND AS A BEACON LIGHT FOR EVERYTHING THAT IS ELEVATING AND ENNOBLING AMONG THE COLORED PEOPLE IN THIS CITY.

If any one of our dear departed friends who have joined the great heavenly host would be able to come forth from their graves it would be very hard for them to convince us that the time would ever come to pass that officers of the law would become so bold that they would have the nerve to invade the Appomattox Club and arrest some eight or ten of its most prominent members for playing cards for money; open and above board that was just what came to pass last Thursday evening, for at about ten o'clock on that evening two fly cops from the headquarters of Chief of Police Charles C. Healey in the City Hall rushed into the parlors of the club and pulled out some of the head or the most expert stud poker players, the officers of the law carrying away with them some of the poker chips and some of the money which they grabbed up from the tables and the money and the poker chips will be used as evidence against the players when their cases come up in the Clark street police court for trial either the 11th or 12th of January, 1916.

The news in connection with the raid of the club has traveled by way of the "grapevine route" to all parts of this city and throughout the United States for the railroad men have carried the news in every direction; Col. William Randolph Cowan, so it is maintained, accompanied those caught in the police raid to the Stanton ave. station and was the head spokesman or the chief bondsman for them.

It was very lucky for some of the head stud poker players that the officers swamped down on the club on Thursday evening instead of Saturday evening for if they would have waited until the latter evening they would have been able to have gathered into their folds or nets some of the biggest players and members of the club, and it would have been a splendid joke if they would have caught the real or the head dog in the meat house when it comes down to playing a stiff game of stud poker and that distinguished gentleman holds some kind of a prominent position in the City Hall and it would have reflected great credit on the colored people in general residing in this city and on Mayor William Hale Thompson if the police would have arrested one of his most prominent colored aids for gambling.

One or two of the newly elected officers of the club were caught in the

THE REPORT OF THE VICE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND STRONGLY INDICATES THAT THE LEADING WHITE CITIZENS OF BALTIMORE THE CITY OF CHURCHES ARE DEVOID OF ALL MORALS AND THAT VICE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION HAS REACHED THE HIGHEST WATER MARK IN THAT CITY.

The report of the Vice Commission appointed by Governor Goldsborough three years ago to investigate vice conditions in the city of Baltimore and in the State of Maryland was made public in the daily journals of the city and state last Monday. The chairman is George Walker, one of the most prominent physicians in the city. The other members are equally noted in their professions. The facts laid bare are startling and bewildering and seriously undermines the social fabric of White society in Baltimore and parts adjacent thereto. It charges that leaders prominent in professional life, in church and social circles are involved in a city-wide system of immorality, which, if disclosed, would shake Baltimore from center to circumference, would fill the courts with applications for divorces, and would wreck the peace of hitherto happy homes. The report charges that there is going on in Baltimore, the city of churches, a traffic in girls and babies which is astounding, and that there are open vice conditions in which the so-called best people are a party. Even leading White ministers of high-toned churches are implicated in the disclosures.

The Star, in a survey of the report, says:

"Some of the things exposed would be unbelievable were they not vouched for by a commission of men and women whose integrity is beyond question. Personal and studied vice is so rampant that it is shown that many leading bankers, physicians, lawyers, real estate men, store owners and high paid employees use the most studied plans for the ruin of young girls or to keep women in lives of immorality. Hundreds of typical cases are given. In the main report key initials are used, but as a result of the assemblage of facts as to ages, locations, acts of commission and surrounding conditions, many citizens, leaders in the church, business and social circles, will be literally shaking in their boots.

"This tremendous social sore is of such great scope that members of the commission consider publication of the general conditions of the same importance to the community as would be the vital necessity of the surgeon's knife to the individual in an extreme appendicitis case. The task is not pleasant to the members of the commission or to those who have promised to aid them, but that the state and public authorities should be informed in full and that the public mind should be thus awakened to its dangers, that correction may be demanded in a voice that cannot be misunderstood, is considered as vital by the commission.

"Some of the orgies of 'our best people,' as described in the commission report in minute detail, would put the orgies of ancient emperors of licentiousness to shame. 'Some of them would make Nero look like a piker,' declared a member of the commission."

The commission did not seem to have had time to look into vice conditions among Negroes. Black society in Baltimore therefore had better take warning and reform itself, for God knows

it needs a similar shaking up.—The Commonwealth, Baltimore, Md., December 25, 1915.

1916 IS BABY YEAR. THE FACTS ABOUT AMERICAN BABIES, THE NEEDS OF AMERICAN BABIES, AND AMERICA'S RESPONSIBILITY TO HER BABIES WILL THIS YEAR BE KNOWN AS NEVER BEFORE, BECAUSE THE FIRST WEEK IN MARCH WILL BE BABY WEEK THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

More than 400 communities representing every State in the Union are already laying their plans for Baby Week, according to the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, in order that during those seven days the needs of the babies may be so presented that all the parents in those communities will learn a little better how to care for their babies, and all the citizens will realize that they have a special obligation to safeguard the conditions surrounding babies. And it is confidently believed by those who are interested in this nation-wide Baby Week that the remainder of the year will be marked by a strengthening of all community activities for saving babies' lives and giving them a better chance to grow to a healthy maturity.

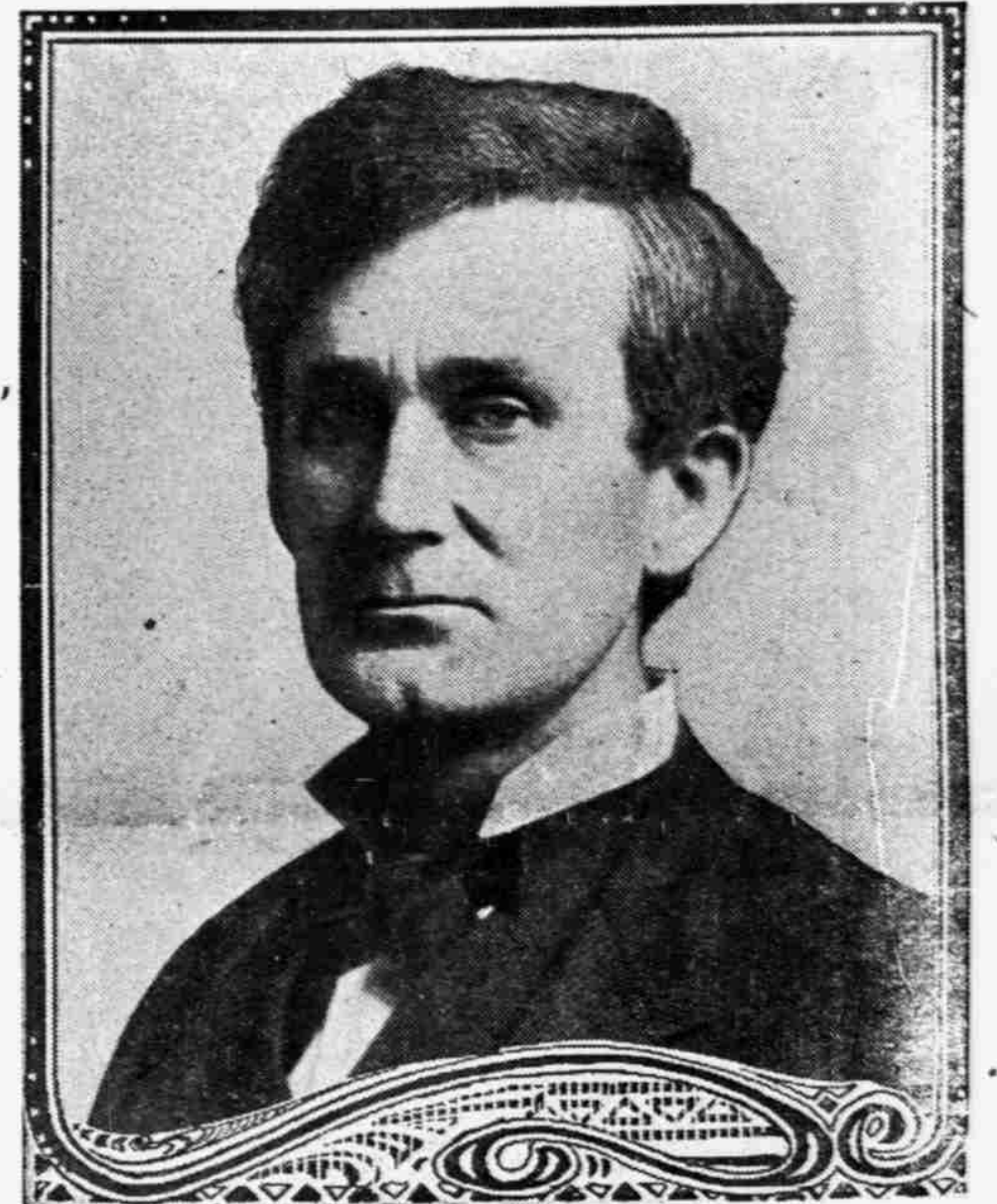
The Baby Week idea originated in Chicago not quite two years ago. Then New York had a Baby Week, and Pittsburg, and other cities. Such practical benefit has in each case resulted that the General Federation of Women's Clubs has undertaken to promote this nation-wide observance. State health officials and national organizations interested in public health and child welfare have taken up the plan and in various ways are giving it not only their sanction but their active cooperation. The extension divisions of the State universities have promised special assistance in interesting and helping Baby Weeks in rural communities.

The Federal Children's Bureau believes that Baby Week will give more parents a chance to learn the accepted principles of infant care, and will awaken every American to his responsibility for the deaths of the three hundred thousand babies who, according to the Census estimates, die every year before they are twelve months old. Therefore the Children's Bureau has prepared a special bulletin of practical suggestions for Baby Week campaigns, adapted to the varying needs of communities of different types. Copies of this bulletin may be had free of charge from the Children's Bureau at Washington, D. C.

FRATERNAL OR SECRET SOCIETIES ELECT MANY OF THEIR PRESIDING OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

Mr. L. B. Shepard, Worthy Grand Patron of the Eureka Grand Chapter of Ill., in company with Mrs. Louise U. Webb, Worthy Grand Matron, went to Aurora, Ill. last Monday to establish and deliver a charter to the new Eastern Star Chapter in that city. Mr. T. A. Wallace was selected as Worthy Patron, Mrs. F. Green, Worthy Matron and Mrs. Francis Thompson, Worthy Secretary.

Last Tuesday evening at the Annual Election of officers of Princess Hagar Chapter No. 7 O. E. S.—Mrs. Martha B. Anderson was elected Worthy Matron, Mrs. Alvia Stewart, Associate Matron, and Mr. H. Lewis, Worthy Patron. This is one of the oldest chapters in the city and promises much under the new administration. Mrs. An-



HON. LAWRENCE Y. SHERMAN.

United States Senator from Illinois who has a splendid chance of securing the nomination for President of the United States at the Republican National Convention which will be held in this city June 7th, 1916.

derson has the work at heart and the hearty support of her newly elected staff.

Mrs. Emma J. Caldwell, Dist. Gr. D. M. N. G. of the Household of Ruth, installed the officers of Leah Household No. 3608, last Wednesday evening, after which refreshments were served and a jolly good time was held.

Mrs. Rosa Tuchia was elected Worthy Matron of Electa Chapter, No. 1, Friday evening, Mr. Adam Horn, Worthy Patron, and Mrs. Gertrude Baley, Assoc. Matron. Wm. E. Berry P. G. W. P. presided at the election, after which the officers were installed by Mrs. L. Webb, W. G. M. and Mrs. L. Owen, Gr. Lecturer. The members of the chapter presented Mrs. Pearl Motley, the retiring Worthy Matron a beautiful Past Matron's Eastern Star pin for her excellent service rendered during the past year.

The officers of Fidelity Court, H. O. J. will hold their Annual Installation at their next regular meeting, Jan. 11th, 1916. They will be installed by Mrs. M. E. Bisch, Grand Most Ancient Matron of the H. O. J. of Ill.

Mrs. J. A. Duncan was elected Worthy Matron of Queen Esther Chapter No. 38, O. E. S. and also Vice President of the Eastern Star club, Sister Duncan is an active member of the order and deserves great credit for her work accomplished as an officer.

The Eastern Star Club held their annual reception this year Thursday Dec. 30, from 2 to 6 p. m. at the residence of Mrs. Jesse Harris 5355 Dearborn st.

Mrs. Mamie Hudson was re-elected President of the Eastern Star Club, Mrs. Ellen Lawson, Treasurer and Mrs.

Jessie Harris, Secretary. The next regular club meeting will convene at Mrs. Julia Tribue's 340 W. 58th st., the first Monday in January.

"MENTAL PEARLS" BY MISS BETTIOLA HELOISE FORTSON IS THE LATEST PRODUCTION IN AFRO-AMERICAN LITERATURE.

The latest production in Afro-American literature, is a neat little book consisting of 62 pages, entitled "Mental Pearls" which contains original poems and essays of its author, Miss Bettiola Heloise Fortson.

The book is neatly bound in light blue cloth embellished in gold letters. It is well gotten up and contains introductory remarks by Rev. John W. Robinson, pastor of St. Mark Church, 50th street and Wabash avenue.

The writer of these lines feels highly honored to have his name mentioned on the pages of this valuable and interesting little book, which contains much historical information pertaining to achievements of Colored men and women throughout the world and it is worth any ones time to read it.

"Mental Pearls" sells for the small sum of 50 cents and it can be obtained by addressing Miss Fortson at 4044 Indiana avenue.

It is pleasing to state; that Miss Fortson, is numbered among our warmest friends. She is true blue, is thoroughly sensible in all things and no one wishes her greater success in her literary endeavor than the writer.

CHICAGO CLERGY LAUD B. T. WASHINGTON.

Chicago Methodist ministers at their regular weekly meeting last Monday adopted resolutions eulogizing the late Booker T. Washington and praising the work that he accomplished during his life at Tuskegee.